

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 11-18 are pending in this case. Claims 1-7 are canceled by the present amendment. No new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Rick, et al., (US Pub. No. 2005/0078774, herein "Rick") in view of Anzai (U.S. Patent No. 6,041,085); Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Rick in view of Anzai, further in view of an assertion of Applicant's admitted prior art; and Claims 8 and 11-18 were indicated as allowed.

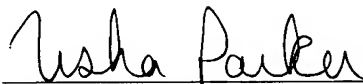
Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowability for Claims 8 and 11-18.

Claims 1-7 are canceled. Thus, the rejections of Claims 1-7 are moot.

Further, in light of the cancelation of Claims 1-7, pending Claims 8 and 11-18, which were indicated as allowable, are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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